Rogers High School

Context Statement by: Kelsie Fountain



**Introduction:** Rogers High School is the public high school of Newport, Rhode Island. This school has been the home to many Vikings since the year 1873, currently 622 students are enrolled. Rogers is full of teachers who have a passion for teaching and students with a hunger to learn. The mission statement for the school is “The Mission of Rogers High School, is partnership with parents and the community, is to provide a challenging and appropriate education in a safe environment, so that all students will develop productive citizenship, life-shop learning, and the ability to adapt successfully in a rapidly changing world.”

Rogers High School is located just past downtown Newport, at 15 Wickham Road. Jim Nelson is currently the man to look up to, also known as the principle. There are two well knows ways to get in contact with the school or find out more information. You can call the school at 401-847-6235 or visit the schools website at [www.newportrischools.org](http://www.newportrischools.org)

**Community Background:** Newport is a beautiful city located right on the bay in southern Rhode Island, founded in 1639. It is the home to about 24,672 according to the 2010 Census. Newport is part of Aquidneck Island which consists of Newport, Middletown and Portsmouth. The total area of Newport is only 11.4 miles, but only 7.7 miles is land, and the rest is water. Newport is a very small island, known for its lovely summer houses, making it a great vacation area.

**Economic Characteristics:** Newport, Rhode Island would be an above average community when being looked at for wealth. The median household income for Newport is $69,369, compared to Rhode Island which is $55,975. The median family income for Newport is $85,269, compared to Rhode Island which is $72,724. The per capita income yet again is much high for Newport than it is for Rhode Island, $37,915 vs. $29,685. Located on the next chard you will see the total percent for all families below the poverty level for Newport is just above half the percent it is for Rhode Island all together; 4.5% vs. 8.9%. Lastly we have the total percent for all people below the poverty level, Newport again is over half of what Rhode Island’s percent is; 7.7% vs. 12.8. As you can see below, graph 3 is small, this just shows you the number of children in Newport, compared to the number of children in all of Rhode Island. In graph 4 (below) you will see poverty level, single parent houses with children and children whose grandparents are financially responsible for them. The child population of Newport is not very high compared to the amount of people that reside in the city; 4,083 vs. 24,672. The amount of children in a single parent family is quite a high percent and is about 11% more than the states; 42% vs. 31%. Next we take a look at the amount of children that live in a family that is below the federal poverty threshold, this percent is low, but not much lower than the whole states percent; 14% vs. 17.9%. The column of grandparents that are financially responsible for their grandchildren is a low percent, and very close to the states percent; 5% vs. 6%. Lastly we have the teen birth rate which is a pretty high percent for teens to be having children. This percentage is again close to the states percentage also; 23.9% vs. 25.5%.

**Ethnicity /Race:** Next we take a look at the diversity in Newport as well as Rhode Island. When looking at these charts you can tell that neither one is very diverse, when looking at race. The population of white people is 90.2% in Newport and 81.4% in Rhode Island. Black/Africans in Newport is 3.5% and Rhode Island is 5.7%. The population of Asians in Newport is 1.6% and 2.9% in Rhode Island. Lastly the second highest percent for each is the percent of Hispanics or Latinos, 4.2% for Newport and 12.4% for Rhode Island. By looking at this chart you can tell white is the generally dominant race for Newport, Rhode Island, and the whole U.S as well.

**District Summary:** When comparing Newport to Rhode Island, the NECAP Assessment scores are just below what Rhode Island’s percent as a whole is. In 3rd grade Math/Reading the proficiency levels were 55%/60% for Newport and 60%/70% for Rhode Island. In 7th grade Math/Reading the proficiency levels were 54%/77% for Newport and 59%/70%. Lastly we have 11th grade proficiency levels to take a look at for Newport we have 26% Math and 82% Reading; Rhode Island we have 34% Math and 79% reading.

Rogers High School is the only high school in the city therefore when trying to compare date we have use other schools in the state. The two schools that have been chosen for data comparisons are Barrington High school, and Central Falls High School. Barrington was chosen due to their standings. Barrington is considered a very strong school, in a very good area. As for Central Falls it is the opposite, Central Falls is a very low class, and a very weak school.

In the table below we take a look at three things and compare to the three school districts named above. First we compared the Teachers with emergency certification, as you can tell not many teachers at all have this certification in any of the districts. Next we take a look at the not highly qualified teachers, yet again the percentage is rather low. Lastly we take a look at the teacher-student ratios and this is what really matters because these are the people who decide how well a school does.

Next we take a look at the student characteristics to get a better understanding of the communities that have been and will continue to be compared. When looking at the students that are eligible for subsidized lunch each district has a very different percent; one high, one in the middle, and one very low. This shows a great different in the communities. Next we take a look at the students receiving ESL/Bilingual Education services; both Barrington and Newport are very low, Central falls is higher. Students that receive special education services in each district is not far from each other we have Newport with 18%, Barrington 12% and Central falls with 22%. Lastly for this graph we take a look at the Median Family income, and the property value per student. Taking a look at both of these last two columns you can see that they are all have pretty big gaps between one another.

**NECAP Assessment scores**: When you compare the 11th grade NECAP testing scores between the three schools as well as the state you can see that Barrington has performed better on the 4 section students were tested on, Next up was Rogers and Central falls has the lowest scores; the state average mixed between them all.

Although a lot of people believe that the best way to tell how a school is doing is the test the students there are actually other ways to tell. For example you may take a look at the attendance rates, dropout rates, and the graduation rates. Below you can see all of these compared between the districts.

Yet again when looking at these statistics you can see that Barrington comes out on top yet again. Barrington has an attendance rate of 96%, a dropout rate of 0,7%, and a graduation rate (2012) of 93.7%. Next up we have Rogers, attendance rate 88%, dropout rate of 18.5% and a graduation rate (2012) of 73.5%. Lastly we have Central Falls with two out of the three sections having the lowest percent. Centrals Falls has an attendance rate of 82%, a dropout rate of 14.8% and a graduation rate (2012) of 68.1%. Rogers and Central Falls both fall below the State in Attendance Rate, and percent graduated in 2012, and they both have a higher dropout percent than the state.

**Conclusion:** Rogers High School is a pretty average school as you can tell after taking such an in-depth look at the school statistics as well as the communities background. This school would be a pretty decent place for a parent to enroll his or her child and know that they will indeed get a good education. After comparing Rogers to, Central Falls and Barrington you can see that Newport is a decent place to live. Newport is not expensive and not cheap when it comes to living, therefore your child will be able to attend a decent school and you will be able to pay for a decent place to live in a very nice community.

**References:**

**NECAP assessment scores**

**Teacher Qualifications**

[**http://infoworks.ride.ri.gov/**](http://infoworks.ride.ri.gov/)

[**http://infoworks.ride.ri.gov/about/intro-guide**](http://infoworks.ride.ri.gov/about/intro-guide)

**Attendance, Drop out, graduated %**

[**http://infoworks.ride.ri.gov/safe-and-supportive/definitions-and-backround**](http://infoworks.ride.ri.gov/safe-and-supportive/definitions-and-backround)

**Background info about Communities**

[**http://www.cencus.gov/**](http://www.cencus.gov/)

**RI kids count**

[**http://rikidscount.org/matriarch/default.asp**](http://rikidscount.org/matriarch/default.asp)